

the HISTORICAL MUSEUM of TROY

Newsletter

January 16, 1976

EXHIBITS

The museum is constantly seeking new exhibitors for special interest displays in our "Michigan Room." We hope to present to public a new display each month. A wide variety of exciting displays are now being planned.

Currently, the Midwest Tool Collectors Association is displaying a fine collection of handmade and manufactured carpenters tools from the 1800's. The exhibit contains such items as Cooperage tools, a wide variety of hand planes and molding planes, Ships Carpenters tools, measuring devices and many more.

In the next few months the museum hopes to sponsor such exhibits as woodcarvers, various antiques, furniture, paintings, antique dolls, and craft exhibits. New exhibits will be announced previous to their opening date.

The next scheduled exhibit contains a fine collection of hand carved miniature furniture. The exhibit will center around the Chippendale Era with authentic detailing in structure to asthetic beauty worked into every piece. Some full scale models will also be included in the display. The artist, Mr. Richard Given, will be at the museum on Sundays to demonstrate his talents and answer any questions. The exhibit opens on Sunday, January 25.

PAST EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

On Dec. 7, the annual "Hanging of the Greens," festivities were held at the museum. The Troy Senior Citizens Choir attracted the attention of the visitors as they echoed Christmas carols throughout the museum. Later on, a sing-a-long in the "Pioneer Room" rang out with Mrs. Nancarrow playing the pump organ. The large crowd was bursting with the Holiday Spirit.

The Troy Garden Club produced an Herbal and Flower display of turn of the century Christmas decorations.

Our special thanks to all the volunteers for making this years event the most successful in years.

COMING EVENTS

The development of the "Historic Green" at the museum site is a topic of growing importance. The plot for the Poppleton school has been staked out to the left of the Caswell House. The move should be made sometime in July.

The "Well House" directly in back of the museum is now being planned as a Print Shop. An 1884 printing press has been donated to the museum by Mr. Richard Miller. Several type cases with a variety of different size type were also a part of his donation.

Eventually the press will be used for all printing needs of the museum. A new facade for the small brick structure is also being planned.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

For future reference in the museum files, volunteers are needed to collect newspaper clippings of assorted topics that reflect Troy history. Some suggested topic headings are; schools, city government, births & deaths, Bicentennial events, architecture, marriages, historic sites and monuments, community events, housing, fund raising, organizations, zoning, transportation, and more.

We would like to have volunteers watch for certain topic headings in the newspapers, and be responsible for only the topic chosen or assigned. Clippings would not need to be turned over to the museum on a regular time basis. The clippings will be promptly filed upon their arrival.

RESTORATION PROGRAM

Over the past several years, the museum has recieved a vast number of donations. Unfortunately it has been difficult to keep up restoration practices for each donation we recieve. The time has come for the museum to ask for your help in restoring the many pieces now held in storage. Once we have obtained several restored artifacts, we will be able to change and intermix displays.

The first meeting of the restoration club will be held on February 4 at 1:00 o'clock in the museums' meeting room. Anyone who wishes to join is welcome. Anyone who has had experience or has reference to literature pertaining to restoration processes is asked to contact the museum before the meeting.

We have many pieces in all shapes and sizes. We must have one for you!

RECENT REMODELING

Over the past several weeks, much remodeling has been done at the museum. One of the most obvious is the removal of the porch enclosure at the museums' main entrance. The building is now back to its original architectural style. The Michigan room has been revived with fresh paint and new track lighting. New paint in the downstairs stairwell and hallway lead to the jail which is being set up for an old fashioned jail-type display. A cot, table, and mannequin will be displayed under a soft blue light to add a "spooky" atmosphere. The display will be finished after the first of the year. Remodeling in the rest rooms should begin sometime in late January.

New flagpole fixtures and flags have been added to the front of the building. The flags, A Betsy Ross and the Michigan flag, will be displayed during museum hours.

A security alarm system has also been installed in the museum and Caswell house. This system will secure the museum against thefts, and will allow us to invite exhibitors to display their valuable collections in our Michigan Room.

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

The museum is constantly seeking information which will help us identify certain artifacts. In each newsletter we will describe a different piece in our ever growing collection that we have little or no information about.

This month we are trying to identify the pencil sketch located in the museum office. The drawing of an elderly white haired man is dated 1889 and is drawn by J.D. Viber.

The picture is 23"by28" with a wooden frame and is covered with glass. Please feel free to call the museum anytime if you have any knowledge of this picture.
689-9178
